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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORTCD NO. *173*

COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 30 September 1949

SUBJECT Airfield at Klin, Moscow Military District

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PLACE

NO. OF ENCLS. 1

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 letter of 16 October 1978 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence
 to the Archivist of the United States
 SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. The KLIN (38°43'E/56°20'N) airfield, about 1.5 miles northwest of the town, had a large landing field (difficult to see from the road), and three large solidly built hangars. An extensive wooded area with large barracks was located along the northern field border.
2. A parachute unit of young soldiers from all branches of service, who still wore the uniforms of their former organizations, was stationed at the field. These soldiers stated that they would be given air force uniforms, as they were recently detached for parachute training. They made numerous parachute jumps every day. *
3. [REDACTED] parachute jumps from twin-engine aircraft flying in formation of as many as 30 or 50, but usually of 20 to 25 aircraft, which took off from and landed at the KLIN airfield; 15 to 20 paratroopers jumped from each plane, flying at altitudes of 1,300 to 1,600 feet. The soldiers stated that they jumped in full kit and carried arms. [REDACTED] that four to five cargo parachutes were dropped with each group of paratroopers. Boxes or sacks, each the size of a man, were attached to these chutes. These cargo parachutes landed at almost the same moment as the paratroopers, who came down in the airfield area or its immediate surroundings. After the landing, the noise of combat activity with light weapons was heard.
4. The aircraft which served for parachute practice were twin engine planes with single and double rudder assemblies. Fighters were also stationed at the field and flew in formations of about five planes, apparently as fighter escort for the aircraft carrying paratroopers. For description of type, see Annex.

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Jet-propelled aircraft (see Annex) were occasionally observed flying individually. Particularly striking was their high speed and the howling noise of their engines. ** The landing field extending along the western field border was occupied by numerous aircraft.

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Comment:

- a. Numerous reports covering the same time of observation confirm the training of paratroops and training exercises by large air-borne troop units in KLIN.
- * b. The information that soldiers were transferred or detached for parachute training by other branches of service is new. It must be therefore assumed that the Soviet paratroops are being increased by soldiers detached from other branches of service. Other troop units are possibly being trained in parachute jumping. The USSR thus would create a reserve of paratroops, the strength of which can not be estimated. Its commitment would be limited only by the available means of transportation.
- ** c. According to the attached sketch the jet fighters observed over KLIN in the summer of 1948 had sweptback wings. This is considered unlikely and is disproved by the information contained in the abovementioned reports. It is believed that the aircraft in question actually is an MIG-9.

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